Washington Update

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1. NTSB Report Recommends Development of Model Legislation in Cooperation with NASEMSD

The National Transportation Safety Board recently released a Special Investigation Highway Report on Medical Oversight of Non-Commercial Drivers (NTSB/SIR-04/01). The report follows a public hearing on the subject. Recommendation number seven recommends the development of model legislation in conjunction with NAEMT and NASEMSD that allows information gathered by emergency medical technicians concerning the potential medical impairment of accident-involved drivers to be conveyed to the state licensing authority. Information on the public hearing is available at

http://www.ntsb.gov/publictn/2004/SIR0401.htm http://www.ntsb.gov/publictn/2004/SIR0401.htm.

2. HRSA Awards \$160,000 in New Grants to Support State Trauma Systems

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) on Dec. 7, 2004, announced four new grants totaling \$160,000 to Alaska, Indiana, Michigan, and New Jersey to help strengthen their trauma system infrastructure. Grants of \$40,000 each will go to the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (Juneau); the Indiana Department of Health (Indianapolis); the Michigan Department of Consumer and Industry Services (Lansing); and the New Jersey Department

of Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services (Trenton). Forty-three states received continuation grants totaling \$1.6 million. For more information, visit http://www.hrsa.gov/trauma/ http://www.hrsa.gov/trauma/.

3. HRSA Report Tracks Impact of Lifestyle Choices, Race and Ethnicity on Health of U.S. Women

HRSA's third annual survey of women's health, Women's Health USA 2004, now is available. The report highlights the impact of physical activity, diet and nutrition, overweight and obesity on women's health. It also examines racial and ethnic disparities for 56 health measures. The report is available through the HRSA Information Center at 1-888-ASK-HRSA or at http://www.ask.hrsa.gov http://www.ask.hrsa.gov/. The data book also will be available online at http://www.hrsa.gov/womenshealth.

4. Wisconsin Names New Section Chief for Emergency Medical Services

Dan Williams has been named the new chief of the Emergency Medical Services Section for the State of Wisconsin. He assumed the position in November. Williams has more than 30 years of EMS experience and his career has spanned the scope of EMS services. His email address is willidp@dhfs.state.wi.us <mailto:willidp@dhfs.state.wi.us > . The Wisconsin Emergency services Web site is at http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/ems/ <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/ems/> .

5. Montana Is Taking Applications to Fill a New EMS System Manager Position until 12/22

As the lead agency for development of a statewide EMS system, this position is responsible for developing and implementing a comprehensive strategic planning process, statewide quality improvement program, and administering the section's information systems. This position requires knowledge in EMS systems development, strategic planning, training and education methods and performance improvement typically acquired through experience in provision of EMS services, EMS education, and EMS system development. Anyone interested in this position can get more information at http://discoveringmontana.com/statejobs/statejobs.asp http://discoveringmontana.com/statejobs/statejobs.asp.

Upcoming Events (** denotes event is newly added)

NAEMSP Annual Meeting, Jan. 13-15, 2005, Registry Resort, Naples, Fla. Information is available at http://www.naemsp.org http://www.naemsp.org/.

2005 National Health Policy Conference: Post-Election 2004, What's in Store for Health Policy, Feb. 2-3, 2005, Renaissance Washington, D.C. Hotel. Information is available at http://www.academyhealth.org/nhpc/.

2005 Trauma-EMS Systems Program Leadership Meeting, Feb. 2-4, 2005, Key Bridge Marriott, Arlington, Va. Information will be provided closer to the meeting date.

"Delivering Results: Improving Pregnancy & Birth," 2005 Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs Annual Conference, Feb. 19-23, 2005, Grand Hyatt Washington Hotel, Washington, D.C. Information is available at http://www.amchp.org/conference.

Homeland Defense Training Conference®: Medical Planning and Operations in Support of Consequence Management: "Managing the Un-thinkable in the Era of Asymmetrical Threats" - Preparing Healthcare Professionals for New Challenges in the Medical Arena, Feb. 24-25, 2005, Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C. Information is available at http://www.marketaccess.org/event_consmgmt.asp http://www.marketaccess.org/event_consmgmt.asp.

Emergency Medical Services Response to Hazardous Material Incidents or Acts of Terrorism, March 18, 2005, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass. Information is available at http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/ccpe/programs/EMSR.shtml.

EMS Today Conference and Exposition, March 18-22, 2005, Philadelphia, Pa. Information is available at http://www.emstodayconference.com http://www.amchp.org/conference.

Injury and Violence in America: Meeting Challenges, Sharing Solutions,
May 9-11, 2005, Denver, Colo. Information is available at
http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/2005conference.